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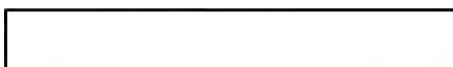


DIRECTORATE OF
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Central Intelligence Bulletin

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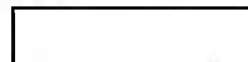
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PHILIPPINES: President Marcos imposes martial law.
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PHILIPPINES: The situation in Manila is calm following yesterday's imposition of martial law throughout the Philippines.

Government spokesmen have cited a recent series of bombing incidents culminated by an assassination attempt yesterday on Defense Secretary Enrile as factors leading to the decree. Whatever the precise reasons behind the government's action, however, [REDACTED]

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President Marcos had carefully orchestrated the move well in advance. He may find it difficult to convince a skeptical public that his action was not designed primarily to tighten his personal grip on political power.

Following the initial announcement of martial law the government moved quickly to arrest a number of prominent anti-Marcos politicians and journalists including Liberal Party Senator Benigno Aquino, who Marcos has accused of collaboration with Maoist-inclined New Peoples Army insurgents.

The small Philippines armed forces are not capable of effectively implementing total military control in Manila, let alone the entire country. If students, Communists, and Marcos' wide range of political opponents eventually take to the streets in protest, the government could face a security situation far more dangerous than the one that existed prior to the decree. [REDACTED]

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